Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1 - 20. (Canceled)

21. (Withdrawn) A method of filtering embolic debris from a blood vessel, comprising the steps of:

providing an elongate tubular member having a filter frame collapsed therein, the filter frame being coupled to an elongate shaft and having a filter material coupled thereto;

advancing the tubular member to an area of interest within a blood vessel of a patient;

moving the tubular member relative to the shaft so as to shift the filter frame from a generally collapsed configuration to a generally expanded configuration, wherein expanded the filter frame is generally cylindrical in shape and has a diameter and a length, the diameter being larger than the length;

performing an intravascular procedure that generates embolic debris;

capturing embolic debris with the filter material; and

aspirating the filter material.

22. (Withdrawn) The method in accordance with claim 21, wherein the shaft comprises a catheter having a lumen extending therethrough and wherein the step of aspirating the filter material includes aspirating embolic debris through the lumen.

23. (Currently Amended) A method of filtering embolic debris from a blood vessel, comprising the steps of:

providing a elongate shaft having a filter frame coupled thereto, the filter frame having a filter material permeable to blood coupled thereto, the shaft having an expansion member disposed therein;

advancing the shaft to an area ~~of interest~~ proximate a lesion within a blood vessel of a patient, the blood vessel having a lumen therethrough;

actuating the expansion member so as to shift the filter frame from a generally collapsed configuration to a generally expanded configuration such that the filter material conforms to the blood vessel lumen, wherein expanded the filter frame is generally cylindrical in shape and has a diameter and a length, the diameter being larger than the length;

performing an intravascular procedure that generates embolic debris;

capturing embolic debris with the filter material; and

aspirating the filter material.

24. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 23, wherein the shaft comprises a catheter having a lumen extending therethrough and wherein the step of aspirating the filter material includes aspirating embolic debris through the lumen.

25. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 23, wherein the expansion member includes a proximal portion and a distal portion, and wherein the step of actuating the expansion member includes applying force in the distal direction to the proximal portion.

26-27. (Canceled)

28. (Withdrawn) A method of filtering embolic debris from a the renal artery, comprising the steps of:

providing an elongate tubular member having a filter frame collapsed therein, the filter frame being coupled to an elongate shaft and having a filter material coupled thereto;

advancing the tubular member to the junction of a portion of the renal artery and a kidney;

retracting the tubular member relative to the shaft so as to shift the filter frame from a generally collapsed configuration to a generally expanded configuration, wherein

expanded the filter frame is generally cylindrical in shape and has a diameter and a length, the diameter being larger than the length;

performing an intravascular procedure that generates embolic debris;

capturing embolic debris with the filter material; and

aspirating the filter material.

29. (Currently Amended) A method of filtering embolic debris from a renal artery, comprising the steps of:

providing a elongate shaft having a filter frame coupled thereto, the filter frame having a filter material permeable to blood coupled thereto, the shaft having an expansion member disposed therein;

advancing the shaft to the junction of a portion of the renal artery and a kidney, the renal artery having a lumen;

actuating the expansion member so as to shift the filter frame from a generally collapsed configuration to a generally expanded configuration such that the filter material conforms to the renal artery lumen, wherein expanded the filter frame is generally cylindrical in shape and has a diameter and a length, the diameter being larger than the length;

performing an intravascular procedure that generates embolic debris;

capturing embolic debris with the filter material; and

aspirating the filter material.

30-39. (Canceled)